

# Silica-Aerogels for exhaust systems

## a new material for thermal insulation

### MOTIVATION

#### THE PROBLEM

The catalyst in the exhaust system works more effective, when the temperature is high enough ( $\approx 400^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The temperature till the entrance of the catalyst. Developing Insulation materials for such temperatures with good mechanical properties is therefore a real challenge.

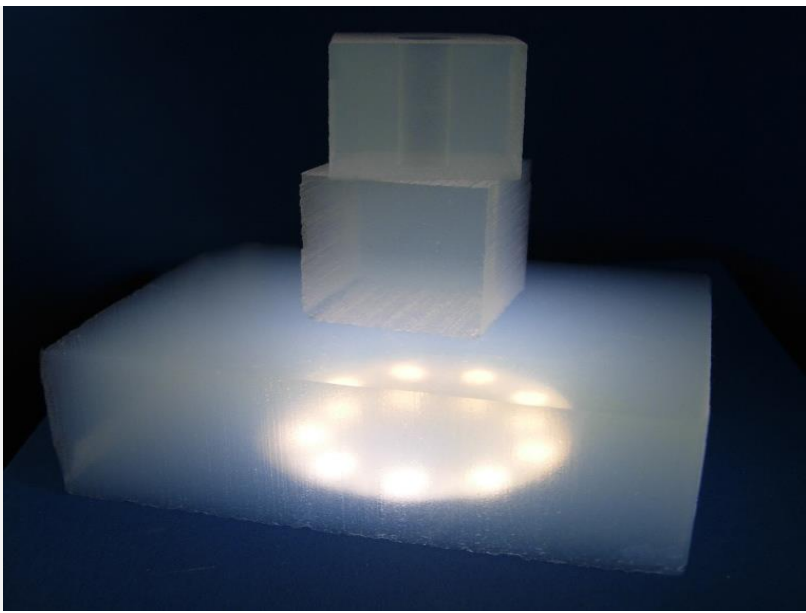


Fujitsu exhaust system  
Source: redlinemotive.com

We propose to combine quartz glass felts with inorganic silica aerogels to manufacture a new types of generic exhaust system of engines.

#### AEROGEL

Aerogels are nanostructured highly open-porous solid materials synthesized by sol-gel



- Properties:
- ✓ High porosity 95 - 99%
  - ✓ Low density  $0.01\text{--}0.2\text{ g/cm}^3$
  - ✓ High specific area  $500\text{--}2000\text{ m}^2/\text{g}$
  - ✓ Low thermal conductivity  $0.005\text{--}0.03\text{ W/mK}$

#### SiO<sub>2</sub>-FIBRE-VELT



- Properties:
- ✓ Density  $0,13\text{ g/cm}^3$
  - ✓ Thermal conductivity  $0,0534\text{ W/mK}$  at  $200^{\circ}\text{C}$
  - ✓ Max. temperature  $1100^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
  - ✓ High heat capacity

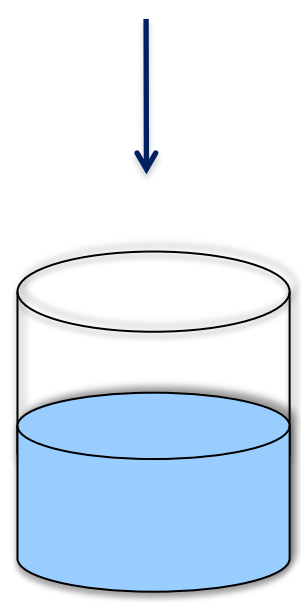
#### COMPOSITE



Half-shell of SiO<sub>2</sub>-fibre-felt filled with SiO<sub>2</sub>-Aerogel

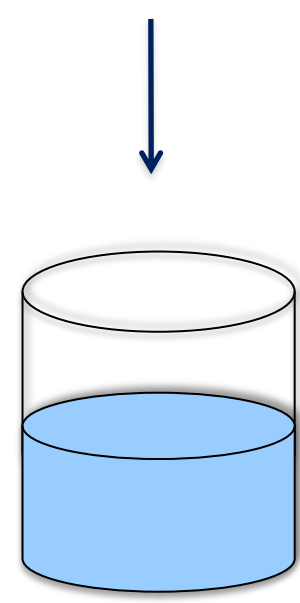
### SYNTHESIS

1. TEOS : Water : Ethanol



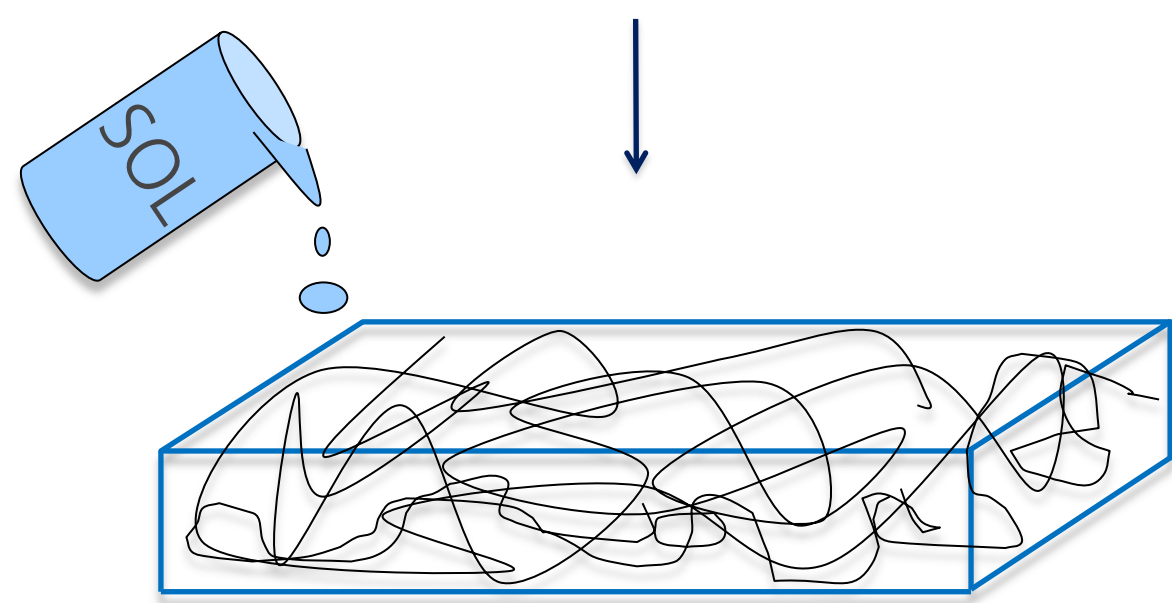
stirring

2. Ammonium fluoride catalyst

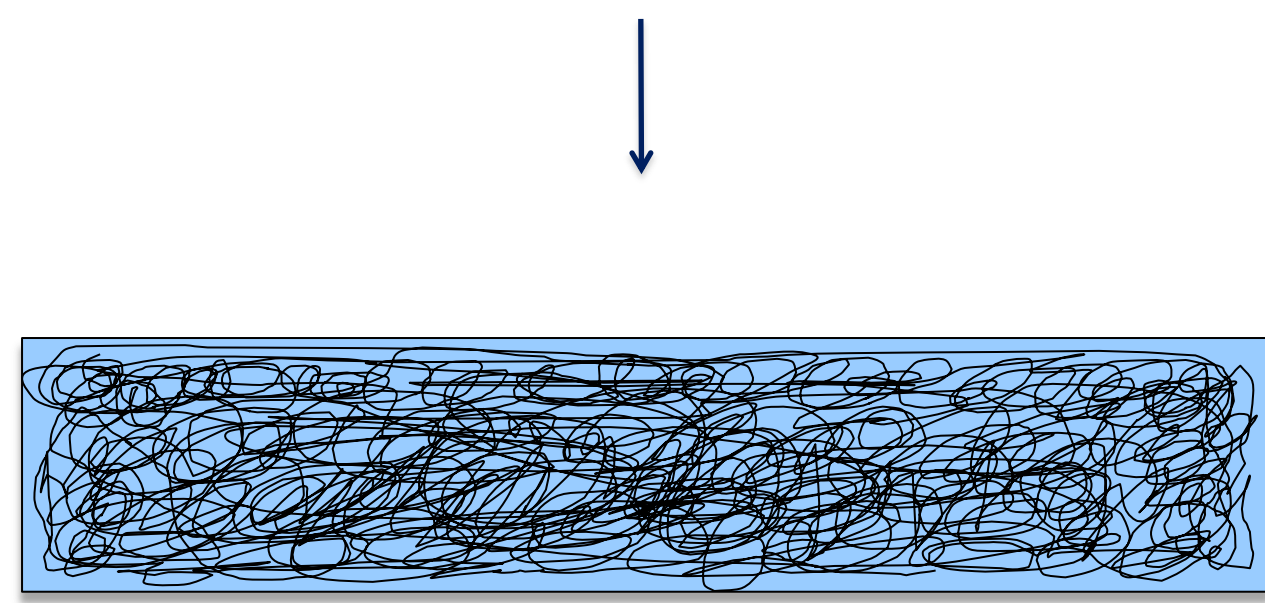


stirring

3. Filling the fibre with sol



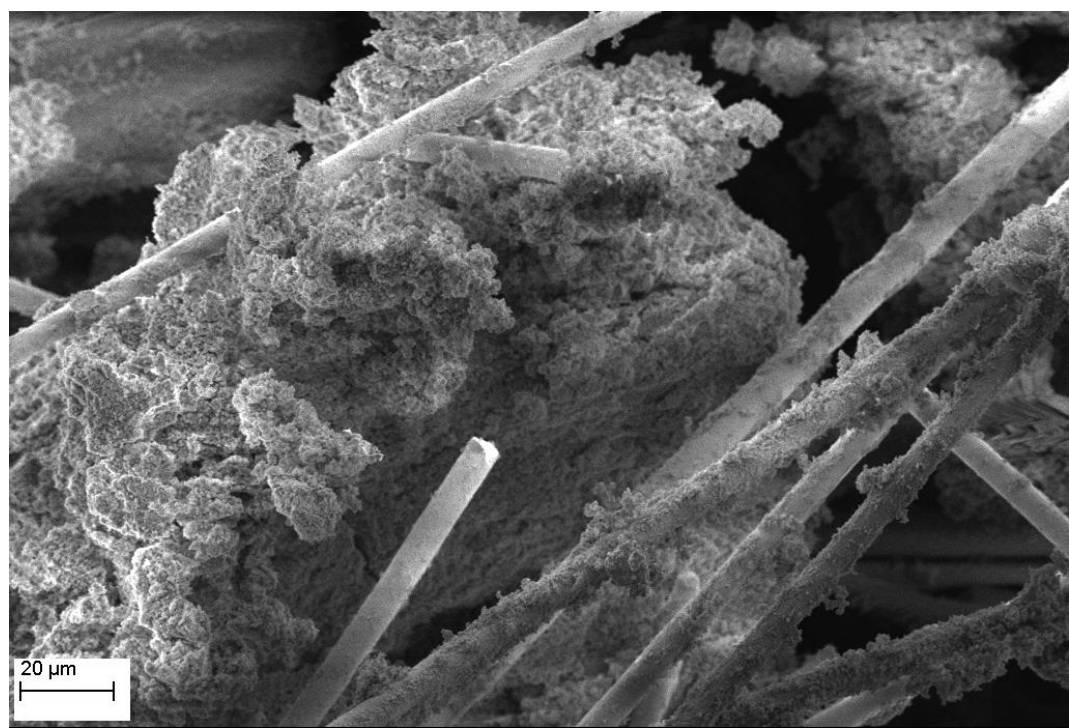
4. Gelling, aging, washing and supercritical drying



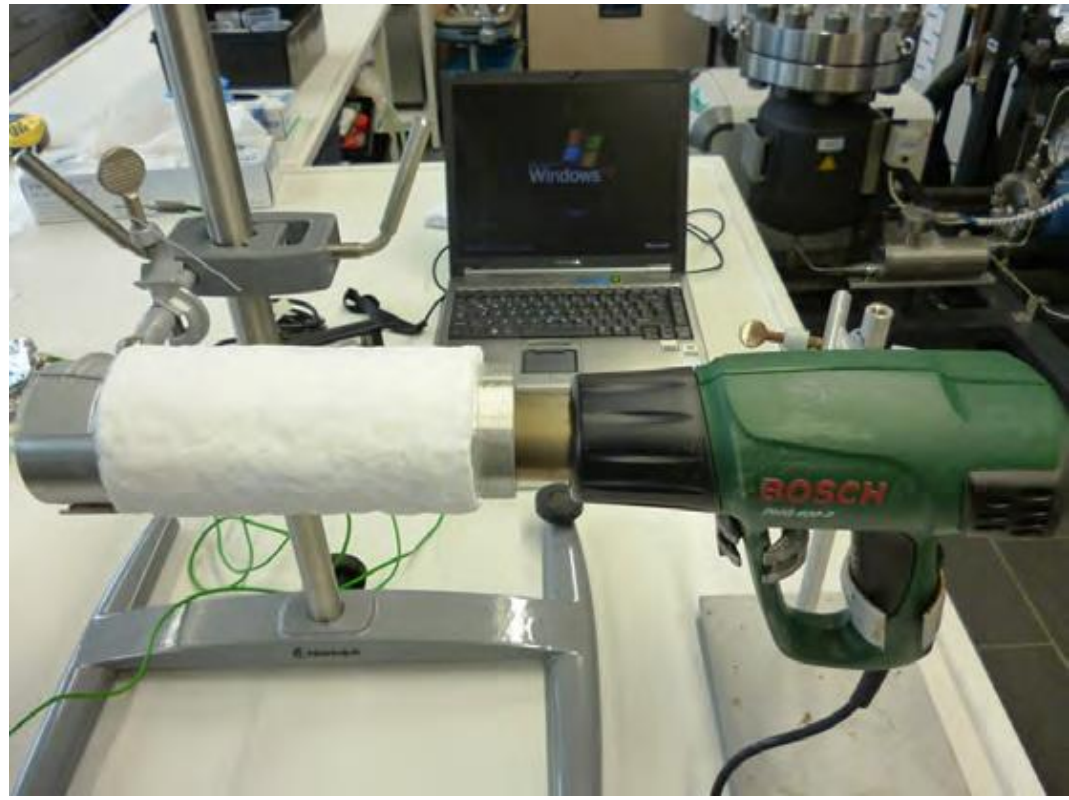
The **gelling** time depends on ammonium fluoride concentration between 10 min or 1 day

**aging** 1 day at  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$   
**washing** with ethanol  
**drying** with supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>

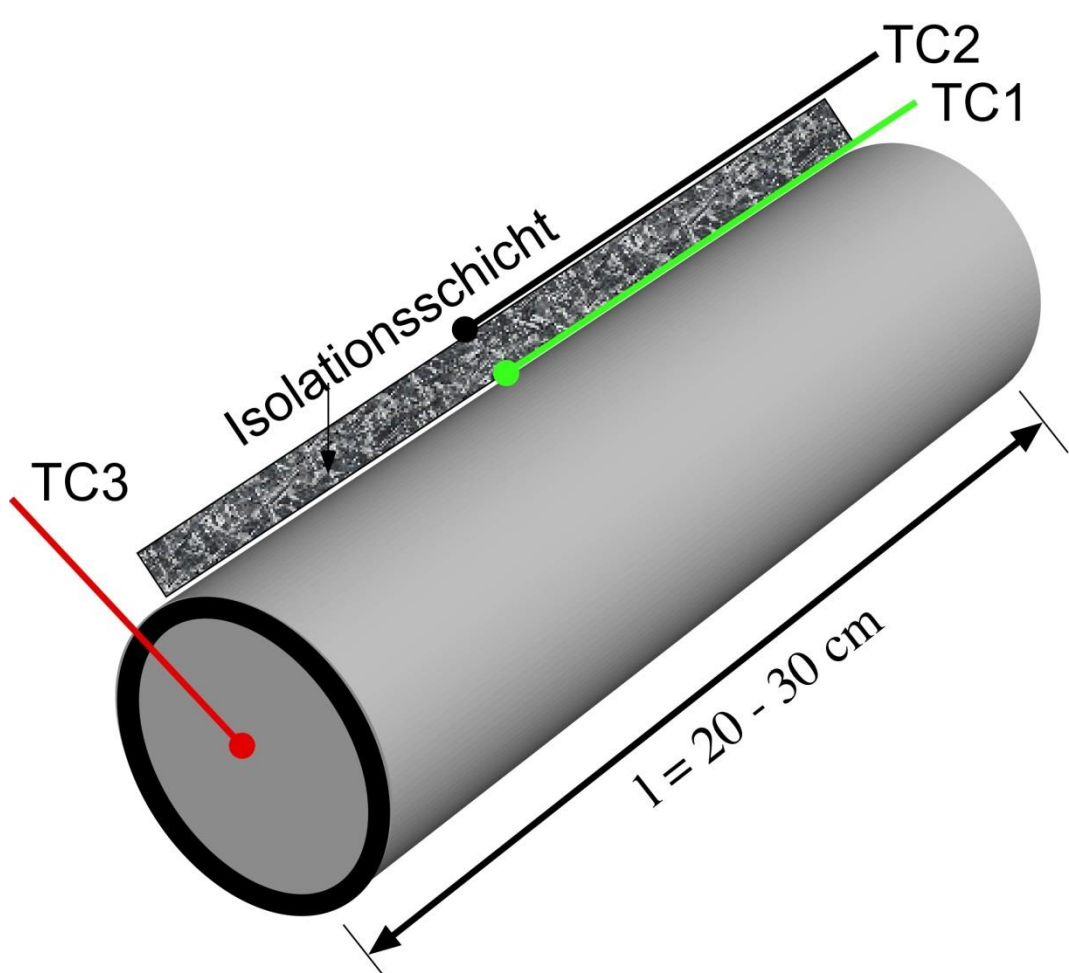
### RESULTS AND CONCLUSION



SEM: Mag. 500x  
quartz glass felts with inorganic silica aerogels



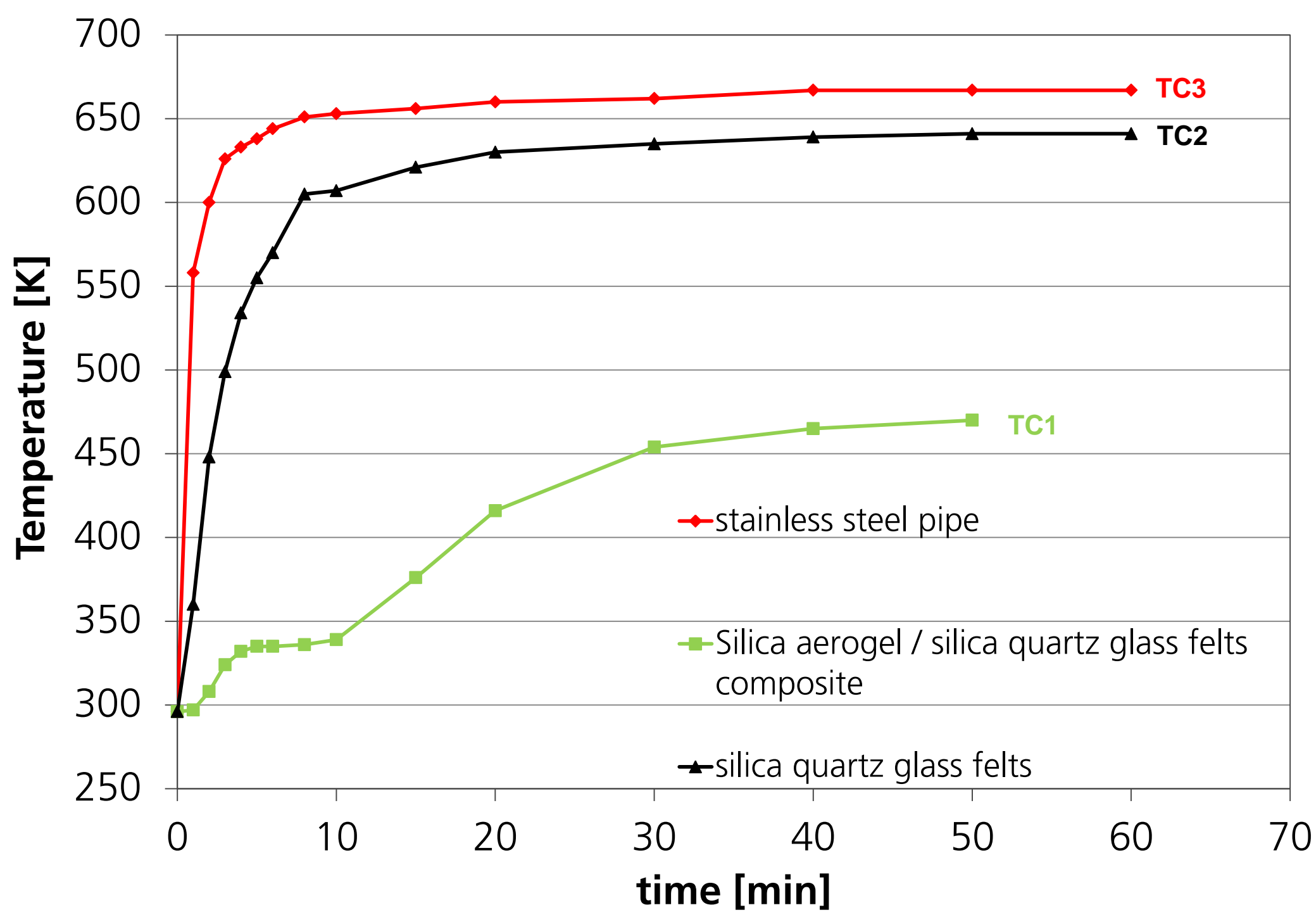
Experiment with a heat gun



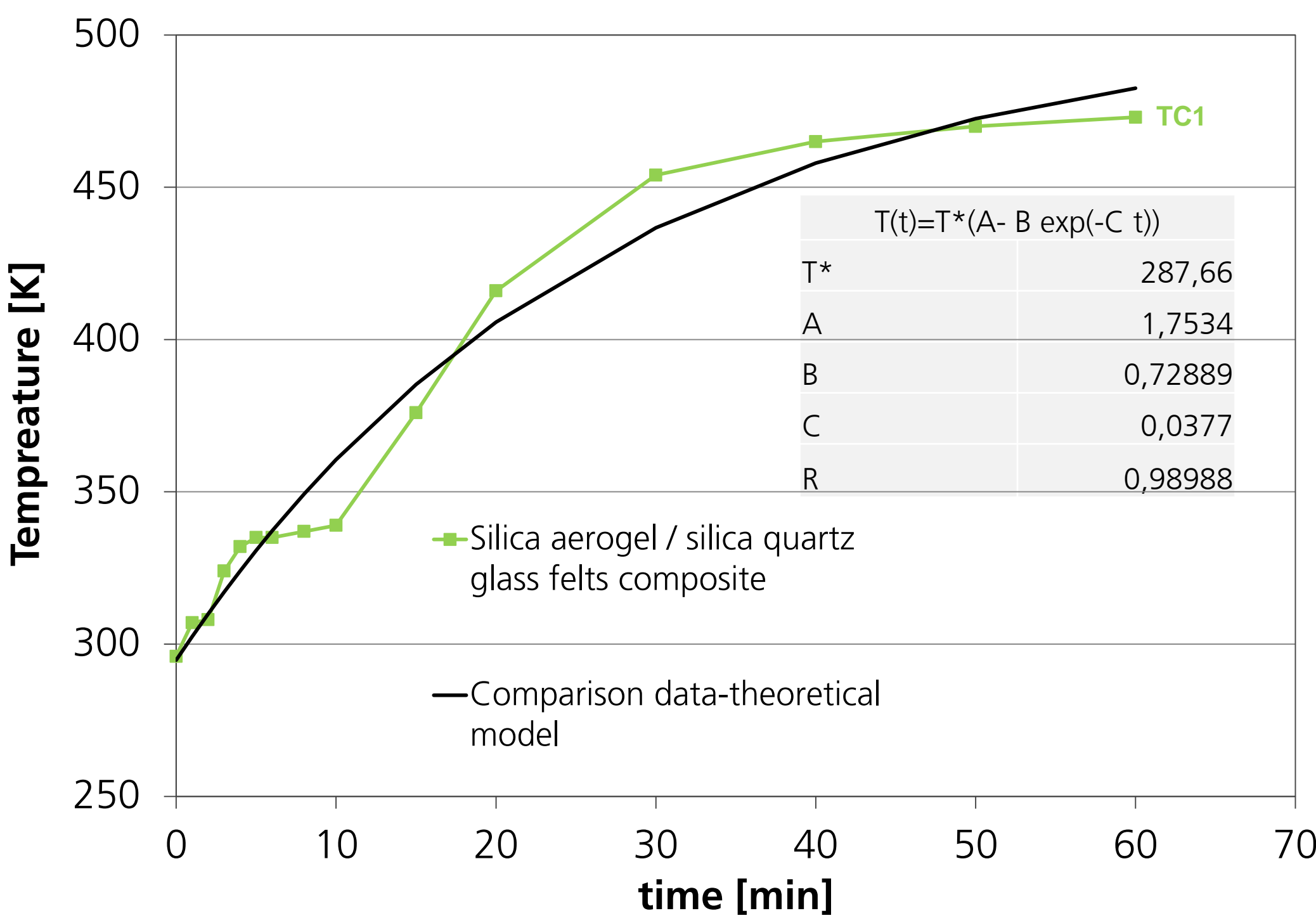
Experiment: schematic

#### COMPOSITE

PROPERTIES	VALUE	UNIT
Density	0.183	g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Porosity	84	%
Thermal conductivity	0.038	W/mK
Specific surface area	242	m <sup>2</sup> /g
Pore volume	0.55	cm <sup>3</sup> /g
Average pore size	14	nm



Comparison of Temperature resistance



Comparison of experimental data-theoretical model